

### Kenneth Campbell & Co.'s Fallure.

This firm, so favorably known in many parts of Canada, has had to succumb through a number of unfavorable causes, and a meeting of the creditors has been called for the 17th inst. The house is an old one, and succeeded Carter & Campbell in 1865, the dissolution being caused by the death of Mr. Carter. Under its present head it has seemed to prosper, with a record for reliability and fair dealing, but its capital was insufficient to carry on the retail stores as well as the wholesale and manufacturing establishment. The direct cause of the trouble is poor trade during November, and the steady accumulation of heavy engagements. While the manufacture of some of its specialties turned out highly profitable it is doubtful if this applied to all. The margin of profits on staples has been small, and, if anything, diminishing, and to counteract losses made in one direction even by skilful generalship, required a greater capital than Mr. Campbell could command. It is admitted that the retail branches were the most profitable. The warehouse, constituting the headquarters of the firm, was unfortunately leased for a number of years, otherwise they would have been vacated, and the house could easily have effected a saving of \$6,000 a year in this way. The assets consist of the stock-in-trade in the various premises on Craig street, St. James street, the Windsor Hotel, and the Colonial House, book debts, &c. Mr. Campbell is still practically in charge of the business, although Mr. A. W. Stevenson and Mr. James Morgan, Jr., have been provisionally appointed to act, if necessary, until the creditors meet. The assignment was effected on the demand of Henry Morgan & Co., and the liabilities are \$46,387 direct, and \$30,000 indirect. The creditors for over \$1,000 are as follows: Duncan Macdonald, St. Johns, Que., \$5,059; H. Morgan & Co., \$1,200; John S. Spencer, Glasgow, \$1,000; Hudon, Hebert & Co., \$3,925; John Hope & Co., \$3,132; Northrop & Lyman Co., Toronto, \$2,480; Henry Hogan, \$2,001; B. & S. H. Thompson & Co., \$1,877; Kerry, Watson & Co., \$1,687, and R. G. Starke, \$1,476. Mr. Kenneth Campbell has the sympathy of the entire business community in this, his first reverse in a long and honorable career, and it is hoped satisfactory arrangements may be devised to enable him to resume operations ere long.—*Journal of Commerce.*

### Manitoba Notes.

The druggists of this Province, who are also for the most part the accredited agents for the far-famed and time-honored firm of Santa Claus & Co., are putting drugs and patent medicines in the back ground for the time being, and are using their energies in the laudable enterprise of making glad the hearts of the youth of

this Prairie Province. And whose mind is so serried with the cares and disappointment of life's struggles that it cannot engage in one of the most pleasing exercises of which it is capable, "gratitude," when this season for good wishes and other amenities of life comes round? We can all afford to be generous for a brief period of the year and let our hearts flow out in love and kindness to the little men and women whose feet have scarcely yet entered the rough causeway of life's struggles. Let us hope then that the druggists have been judicious in their selection of fancy goods and toys, and that the fathers and mothers, the sisters and brothers, the brave youth and fair maiden will show an appreciation of their effort by rallying to their support.

Mr. Martin, late of Messrs. Fleming & Sons, Brandon, has accepted a situation with Mr. J. C. Gordon, of Winnipeg.

The town of Baldor, on the Brandon and Morris Branch of the Northern Pacific Railway, is clamoring for a doctor who will combine with his practice a drug store. The town of Miami, on the same line, is also ripe for a drug store.

Mr. Cranston, late traveller for Martin, Rosser & Co., has severed his connection with that firm.

### Notes From England.

(By our own Correspondent.)

Reference has been made in these columns to the proposed extension of the qualifying examination of the Pharmaceutical Society. The alteration was principally in the subjects, and not in the method of examination. This month, however, the Council has had under its consideration a complete and radical change in the whole conduct of its examinations. It is now proposed that the minor examination should be divided into two portions, each taken upon a separate day. Hitherto the whole six subjects of this examination have been crowded into one day, the result being unfair alike to the examiner and the examined. As the subjects are taken almost entirely *viva voce*, the strain upon the candidate was very great, and the time allowed to each man did not allow a very systematic and practical method to be adopted. Should the proposed alterations come into force a candidate would be required to give evidence of his practical knowledge in the practical subjects of dispensing, pharmacy and chemistry, before proceeding to the more theoretical subjects of botany and materia medica. The practical portion would be taken on the first day, and unless sufficient merit were shown the candidate would not be required to present himself on the following day for the *viva voce* portion. This is, in a measure, an adaptation of the present method of conducting [the major examination for the title of pharmaceutical chemist. This is divided into two days, the first being entirely devoted to practical analytical chemistry, including volumetric and gravimetric analysis. The

second day is devoted to the oral examination in chemistry (organic and inorganic), physics, botany, and materia medica. Under the new style, this examination will also be considerably modified, written questions taking the place of oral, and a pass being allowed if the candidate does well in the chemical and physical portion. Hitherto over 50 per cent. marks were required in each subject to enable one to pass. The whole tendency of the change is two-fold. In the first place a distinct attempt has been made to raise the standard of the principal qualifying examination, the major, which entitles the successful candidate to call himself a chemist and druggist. This has become necessary as, although originally intended as the examination for a druggist's assistant, it was made by the Act of 1868 a legally qualifying ordeal. The qualification carrying as it does the right of setting up in business on one's own account, has long been considered by the majority of students as sufficient for their purpose. Secondly, it will enable the examiners to become better acquainted with the abilities of the candidate than is at present possible, thus preventing the passing of an incompetent man or the rejecting of a highly nervous one.

Messrs. Evans, Sons & Co., of Liverpool, have had a rather disastrous fire in their oil department. The cause of the fire has not yet been discovered, but fortunately, the building is quite separate from their tincture house, laboratories and drug mills. The firm has grown in an extraordinary fashion during the 70 years of its existence. As is well known the firm of Evans, Lescher & Webb, of Bartholomew's Close, London, is closely associated with it, and so is also the Montreal branch of Evans & Sons, (Limited.) The London house takes charge of all metropolitan customers and those in the south of England and extends its operations practically to South Africa, the continent and Australia. The Liverpool house has an immense export trade with South America, and a good connection in the Midlands and North of England. The principal buying is done on the London markets for both houses by Mr. F. Harwood Lescher, F. C. S., and as might be expected is very heavy. Most of the drugs, &c., are shipped by steamer from London to Liverpool, where the principal manufacturing takes place, the space in London being very limited. The tinctures, fluid extracts, &c., return in the same way from Liverpool, in casks, although the bleaching of castor oil, filtering of balsams, etc., is done here. As an instance of the enormous trade done by these houses, I may mention that for some years they have paid \$1000 weekly to the Government as duty on rectified spirit used in their establishments, an amount representing some 200 gallons of that expensive article employed weekly. Their trade has been extended by the introduction of a pure brand of lime juice, called after the island whence it is obtained, Montserrat, and which is to be